

SECTION 2 OF 18

BODY

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND WEAPONS REVIEW CABLE,  
SW SWRC 89-5002K, 10 JANUARY 1989

THE ISRAELIS ORIGINALLY WERE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN SDI SIMPLY TO GAIN ACCESS TO NEW TECHNOLOGY, BUT SINCE LATE 1987 PRESS AND RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTING FROM ISRAEL INDICATES AN INCREASED CONCERN ABOUT CHEMICAL ATTACKS BY ARAB COUNTRIES, IN PARTICULAR SYRIA, USING BALLISTIC MISSILES. THIS INCREASED CONCERN PROBABLY WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE SALE OF THE INTERMEDIATE-RANGE CSS-2 TO SAUDI ARABIA, THE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, AND THE USE OF BALLISTIC MISSILES IN THE WAR OF THE CITIES. SOURCE REPORTING INDICATES THAT THE ISRAELIS NOW SEEM DETERMINED TO COUNTER THE ARAB MISSILES.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCES, LT. GEN. DAN SHOMRON, HAS STATED IN THE PRESS THAT THERE ARE THREE RESPONSES TO THE MISSILE THREAT: PREEMPTIVE AIR STRIKES, CIVILIAN CHEMICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS, AND ATBM SYSTEMS. IN PRESS STATEMENTS, BOTH HE AND DEFENSE MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN HAVE EMPHASIZED THE FIRST TWO RESPONSES AS CAPABLE OF PROTECTING THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND HAVE REFERRED TO ATBM SYSTEMS ONLY AS LONG-TERM PROJECTS. INDEED, THEY AND OTHER ISRAELI OFFICIALS, WHILE EXPRESSING CONCERN IN THE PRESS OVER THE THREAT POSED BY ARAB MISSILES, HAVE ATTEMPTED TO MINIMIZE ISRAELI FEARS ABOUT CHEMICAL ATTACKS. THE ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT 50 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION COULD BE

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
PROTECTED FROM CHEMICAL ATTACKS THROUGH CIVIL DEFENSE MEANS  
WITH AS LITTLE AS TWO MINUTES OF WARNING  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

ALTHOUGH THE ISRAELIS DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE DECIDED ON A  
FINAL FORM OF THEATER DEFENSE, REPORTING FROM VARIOUS SOURCES  
INDICATES THAT THEIR ATBM PROGRAM CONSISTS OF TWO PHASES.  
THE FIRST PHASE INVOLVES DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARROW INTERCEPTOR  
MISSILE FOR AREA DEFENSE AND EITHER THE AB-10 INTERCEPTOR  
MISSILE (DERIVED FROM THE ISRAELI NAVY'S BARAK POINT-DEFENSE  
MISSILE) OR A HYPERVELOCITY GUN FOR TERMINAL DEFENSE. EARLY  
WARNING SENSORS PROBABLY WOULD CONSIST OF PHASED-ARRAY  
RADARS, A TETHERED AEROSTAT BALLOON SYSTEM TO COUNTER CRUISE  
MISSILES, AND REMOTELY PILOTED VEHICLES (RPVS). THE SECOND  
PHASE WOULD ADD AN AIRBORNE HIGH-ENERGY LASER (HEL) SYSTEM.  
EARLY WARNING ASSETS BEING CONSIDERED FOR LATER DEPLOYMENT  
INCLUDE HIGH-ALTITUDE RPVS AND A SPACE-BASED PLATFORM. [REDACTED]

#### ARROW PROGRAM

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] ISRAELI OFFICIALS INDICATE THAT THE ARROW IS A  
RELATIVELY HIGH-VELOCITY [REDACTED]  
INTERCEPTOR SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO COUNTER REENTRY VEHICLES  
ADMIN  
[REDACTED]

*denied*

B1, B3  
B4.

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